

Data, models and practical solutions
for a safe urban environment

INTENSE PRECIPITATION AND URBAN RESILIENCE



23 April 2026
09.30–15.00



Latgales Street 165, Riga
Floor 2 meeting room
and online



LATVIJAS VIDES, GEOLOĢIJAS
UN METEOROLOĢIJAS CENTRS



Water4All
Water security for the planet

Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre (LEGMC) in collaboration with international partners of project ECCO invites interested parties to a conference dedicated to one of the most pressing climate challenges – **intense precipitation and its impact on the urban environment.**

Aim of the conference: To combine local and international expert knowledge in order to create a common understand of precipitation risks and develop data-driven solutions in Latvian urban environments.

What to expect?

- **Power of data:** LEGMC experts will present the latest trends in precipitation monitoring and flood modelling in Latvia.
- **Nordic experience in person:** Experts from [Norway](#) will share their experience and methods in combined extremes modelling.
- **Interdisciplinary synergy:** Meeting with scientists and representatives from local government, operational services, insurance and banking sectors in two panel discussions.

The conference will happen in Latvian, with simultaneous interpreting to English available. Conference will be moderated by journalist Sandra Kropa.

Venue: **In person** in Riga, Latgales Street 165, floor 2 meeting room (limited availability), and **remotely** online.



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CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

23 April 2026

09.30 **Participant registration**

10.00 **Seminar opening (in Latvian)**

Kaspars Melnis

Minister for Climate and Energy

Sigita Škapare

*Chairperson of the Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre
(LEGMC) Board*

From climate data to urban preparedness: identifying and managing risks

10.10 **Current understanding of intense precipitation and combined
weather extremes (in Latvian)**

Dace Zandersone

LEGMC Forecasting and climate department data analyst

Precipitation trends in Latvia (in Latvian)

Rita Graustiņa

LEGMC Forecasting and climate department data analyst

Flood modelling in urban environments (in Latvian)

Jānis Šīre

LEGMC Development and projects department project manager

**Riga Urban Greening Plan: Nature-Based Solutions for a Climate-
Resilient Urban Environment (in Latvian)**

Liene Griķe

*Chief Project Manager at Riga City Council Sectoral Policy Planning Division,
City Development Department*

11.10 **Break**



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International experience and research in climate resilience strengthening

11.20 **Project ECCO**

Anita Verpe Dyrørdal

*Head of Norwegian Meteorological Institute Climate department and
Norwegian Centre for Climate Services*

Floods and the role of pre-event soil moisture

Thomas Skaugen

Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate research professor

12.00 **Lunch break**

13.00 **Panel discussions**

**Climate-Resilient Urban Planning: Bridging the Gap Between Policy
and Science**

- *Kristīne Zommere-Rotčenkova, Senior Expert at Ministry of Climate and Energy
Climate Policy Department*
- *Jānis Šīre, LEGMC Development and projects department project manager*
- *Jānis Rubulis, Senior Researcher at Riga Technical University*
- *Liene Griķe, Chief Project Manager at Riga City Council*

**Critical Infrastructure and Financial Risks: Assessing Preparedness
for Extreme Rainfall Events**

- *Jānis Abāšins, President of Latvian Insurers Association*
- *Edvards Kušners, Advisor to the Council and Head of Sustainability at Bank of
Latvia*
- *Boriss Jeļisejevs, Head of Latvian State Roads Traffic Information Centre*
- *Uldis Kevers, Head of the Civil Protection Board of the State Fire and Rescue
Service*

14.30 **Conclusions and end of seminar**
